

Remarks

Claims 1 – 11 were previously canceled. Claims 12-25 were pending in this application. Claims 16-22 have been withdrawn in response to the Examiner's requirement for the election of one type of pain for treatment. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the withdrawn claims in one or more divisional applications. Claims 12 and 15 have been amended in response to the restriction requirement. Therefore, claims 12-15 and 23-25 are now pending in this application.

Initially, Applicants solicit the Examiner's kind assistance in correcting the Patent Office records to reflect the change in attorney and correspondence address which were requested in the Applicants' previous response. Despite the filing in Applicants' previous submission of a revocation by the assignee of the previous attorney's power of attorney, as well as the filing of both a new power of attorney and a change in correspondence address, nevertheless the current Office Action was mailed to the previous representative. Copies of the previously filed revocation of power of attorney, new power of attorney, and change in correspondence address are herein enclosed for the Examiner's convenience, and he is thanked in advance for his assistance in this matter.

In the Office Action dated May 23, 2005, the Examiner imposed a requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 for election of one species of pain. Applicants hereby elect the species designated by the Examiner as "(i) neuralgia pain," which is also known as "neuropathic pain." Applicants have attached herein a printout from Wikipedia, the on-line encyclopedia, to document that neuralgia pain is equivalent to neuropathic pain. With the current amendments to claims 12 and 15, all currently pending claims now read on the elected species. Support for claims directed to neuralgia pain is found in original claim 5. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter that has been excluded from amended claims 12 and 15, as well as that of the withdrawn claims, in one or more divisional applications.

Specifically, Applicants have amended claims 12 and 15 so that they are now directed to "neuralgia pain, also known as neuropathic pain." As indicated above, support for neuralgia pain is found in original claim 5.

The Examiner's effort to reach the undersigned by telephone prior to the issuance of the current Office Action is gratefully acknowledged.

In view of the foregoing amendments, withdrawal of claims, and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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